

REMARKS

Claims 2-6, 9-18, 20-24, 27-42, 44-46, 48-50, 52 and 53 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 27 and 46 are amended and claims 52 and 53 are added. No new matter is added.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-6, 9-18, 20-24, 27-42, 44, 45 and 48-50 contain allowable subject matter.

Claims 2-6, 9-18, 20-24, 27-42, 44 and 45 were objected to for informalities. Specifically, claim 27 was objected to for calling for "the cartridge frame comprising: a developing roller" without the frame including a roller. Claim 27 has been amended responsive to the objection. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claim 46 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Enoki, JP-A-2001-83858. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 46 calls for a first elastic element transformable between a first original shape and a first transformed shape, wherein the first elastic element is attached to the photosensitive body and to the cartridge frame. Applicant respectfully asserts that Enoki fails to teach or suggest these features.

The Office Action, on page 2, alleges that Enoki's flexible member 200 corresponds to the first elastic element, Enoki's sideboard element 100b corresponds to the cartridge frame and Enoki's photoconductor drum 12 corresponds to the photosensitive body of claim 46. As can clearly be seen in Enoki's Figs. 4 and 5, the flexible member 200 is only connected to sideboard elements 100a and 100b which connects image developing unit 11 to drum unit 10. That is, the flexible member 200 is not connected to photoconductor drum 12. Consequently, one of ordinary skill in the art could not reasonably interpret Enoki as teaching or suggesting a first elastic element transformable between a first original shape and a first transformed

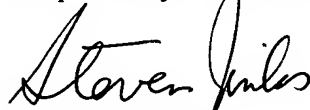
shape, wherein the first elastic element is attached to the photosensitive body and to the cartridge frame, as called for in claim 46.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Steven D. Jinks
Registration No. 62,760

JAO:SDJ/rle

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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